

The China Mail.

Established February, 1840.

VOL. XLV. No. 8374.

九月一十九年八百八十一號

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1889.

日七十月十日

PRICE, \$2 PER MONTH.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. Atalan, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E. C. GEORGE & CO., 30, Cornhill, GORDON & GORTON, 10, Cornhill, GORDON & CO., 37, Bishopsgate, G. H. HARRIS & CO., 150 & 154, London Wall, W. M. WILSON, 151, Cannon Street, E.C.; ROBERT WATSON, 15, Fleet Street.
PARIS—EUROPE.—AMBERT & PRINCE, 36, Rue Lafayette, Paris.
NEW YORK.—J. STEWART HOPPER, THE CHINESE EVANGELIST CHURCH, 62, West 22d Street.
SAN FRANCISCO AND AMERICAN PORTS generally.—BEATTY & BLAKE, San Francisco.
AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GORTON, Melbourne and Sydney.
CEYLON.—W. M. COOPER & CO., THE APOTHECARY CO., Colombo.
SINGAPORE STRAITS, ETC.—SAVAGE & CO., Square, Singapore; C. H. HEINRICH & CO., Madras.
CHINA.—MACAO, F. A. DE CRUZ, SWOBB, QUELCH & CO., Amoy; N. MOALLEH, Foochow; BEEDS & CO., Shanghai; LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & WAGNER, Tientsin; LANS, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & CO.

BANKS.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid-up Capital, \$7,500,000
Reserve Fund, \$4,400,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors, \$7,500,000

COUNCIL OF DIRECTORS:
Chairman, W. H. NOBLE, Esq.
Deputy Chairman, H. L. DARTMOUTH, Esq.
W. G. BROOKES, Esq., S. C. MICHAELSEN, Esq.
T. E. DAVIES, Esq., J. F. HOLLOWAY, Esq.
J. S. MOSES, Esq., Hon. J. J. KERSHAW, Esq.
Hon. B. LYTTON, N. A. SHER, Esq., E. A. SOLOMON, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER, G. E. NOBLE, Esq.
MANAGER, JOHN WALTER, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.
INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

On Fixed Deposits:
For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 4 per cent. " "
" 12 " 5 per cent. "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.
Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted at London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

G. E. NOBLE,
Chief Manager,
Hongkong, August 24, 1889.

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NOTICE.

RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS' BANK.

1.—The business of the above Bank will be conducted by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on their premises in Hongkong. Business hours on week-days, 10th to 3rd; Saturdays, 10th to 1st.
2.—Sums less than \$1, or more than \$250 at one time will not be received. No depositor may deposit more than \$2,500 in any one year.
3.—Depositors in the Savings' Bank having \$100 or more at their credit may at their option transfer the same to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on fixed deposit for 12 months at 5 per cent. per annum interest.
4.—Interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum will be allowed to depositors on their daily balances.

5.—Each Depositor will be supplied gratis with a Pass-Book which must be presented with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their Pass-Books, but should send them to be written up at least twice a year about the beginning of January and beginning of July.
6.—Correspondence as to the business of the Bank, if marked On Hongkong Savings' Bank Business is forwarded free by the various British Post Offices in Hongkong and China.

7.—Withdrawals may be made on demand, but the personal attendance of the depositor or his duly appointed agent, and the production of his Pass-Book are necessary.

For the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
G. E. NOBLE,
Chief Manager,
Hongkong, January 1, 1889.

754

Intimations.

NOTICE
THE PUNJAM AND SUNGHIE DUA SAMANTAN MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company are requested to attend a PRIVATE MEETING to be held at the Company's Office, No. 9, Queen's Road Central, on MONDAY, the 11th instant, at 4 p.m.

A. O'D. GOULDIN,
Secretary.

Hongkong, November 1, 1889. 2091

PEESEVERANCE LODGE OF HONGKONG,
No. 1155.

A Regular MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zeeland Street, on SATURDAY, the 16th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited.

Hongkong, November 8, 1889. 2130

VICTORIA PUBLIC SCHOOL, YOKOHAMA.

Paid-up Capital, \$7,500,000
Reserve Fund, \$4,400,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors, \$7,500,000

COUNCIL OF DIRECTORS:
Chairman, W. H. NOBLE, Esq.
Deputy Chairman, H. L. DARTMOUTH, Esq.
W. G. BROOKES, Esq., S. C. MICHAELSEN, Esq.
T. E. DAVIES, Esq., J. F. HOLLOWAY, Esq.
J. S. MOSES, Esq., Hon. J. J. KERSHAW, Esq.
Hon. B. LYTTON, N. A. SHER, Esq., E. A. SOLOMON, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER, G. E. NOBLE, Esq.
MANAGER, JOHN WALTER, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS—London and County Bank.

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G. E. NOBLE,
Chief Manager,
Hongkong, August 24, 1889.

363

NOTICE.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPoa DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

SHIPMasters and ENGINEERS are respectfully informed that, upon their arrival in this Harbour, NONE of the Company's FOREMEN should be at hand, Orders for REPAIRS if sent to the Head Office, No. 14, Praya Central, will receive prompt attention.

In the Event of Complaints being found necessary, Communication with the Under-signed is suspended; when immediate steps will be taken to rectify the cause of dissatisfaction.

D. GILLIES,
Secretary.

Hongkong, August 25, 1889. 1458

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, \$5,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL, 2,500,000
RESERVE FUND, 1,250,000

Board of Directors:

Hon. J. J. KERSHAW,
Chairman,
Hon. G. P. CHATER,
Managing Director,
Vice-Chairman,
E. A. SOLOMON, Esq.

J. S. MOSES, Esq.,
S. C. MICHAELSEN, Esq.,
G. E. NOBLE, Esq.,
LIEE SING, Esq.,
POON PONG, Esq.

Bankers:

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

MONEY ADVANCED ON MORTGAGE, OR LAND OR BUILDINGS; PROPERTIES PURCHASED AND SOLD.

Estate managed, and all kinds of Agency and Commission Business relating to Land, etc., conducted.

Full Particulars can be obtained at the Company's Office, No. 6, Queen's Road Central.

A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary.

Hongkong, October 1, 1889. 1869

FIFTY CENTS.

To be had at Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, and Mr. W. BREWER, and at the China Mail Office.

Hongkong, November 8, 1889. 2122

JUST PUBLISHED—Price, 50 Cents.

MISSION STRANGERS: History of the Churches of India, Burmah, Siam, China, Japan, etc., etc.

TRANSLATED BY

E. H. PARKER, Esq., H. B. M.'s Consular Service.

To be had at Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, and Mr. W. BREWER, and at the China Mail Office.

Hongkong, November 8, 1889. 2122

NOW READY.

VOLUNTEERS AND THE DEFENCE OF HONGKONG.

A. SEXTON.

Hongkong, November 8, 1889. 1882

FIFTY CENTS.

To be had at Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, and Mr. W. BREWER, and at the China Mail Office.

Hongkong, August 14, 1889. 1882

TO BE HAD.

For the HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF & GODOWN COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hongkong, November 8, 1889. 2090

FIFTY CENTS.

To be had at Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, and Mr. W. BREWER, and at the China Mail Office.

Hongkong, August 14, 1889. 1882

TO BE HAD.

For the HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF & GODOWN COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hongkong, November 8, 1889. 2091

FIFTY CENTS.

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Hongkong, November 8, 1889. 2091

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For the HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF & GODOWN COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hongkong, November 8, 1889. 2091

FIFTY

THE CHINA MAIL.

No. 8374—NOVEMBER 9, 1889.

Intimations.

THE CHINA REVIEW.

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY.

THIS Review, which was intended to meet the wants of many students of Chinese caused by the discontinuance of "Notes and Queries on China and Japan," has reached its Eighteenth Volume. The Review discusses those topics which are uppermost in the minds of students of the Far East and about which every intelligent person connected with China or Japan is desirous of acquiring trustworthy information. It includes many interesting Notes and original Papers on the Arts, Sciences, Ethnology, Folklore, Geography, History, Literature, Mythology, Natural History, Antiquities, and Social Manners and Customs, etc., etc., of China, Japan, Mongolia, Tibet, and the Far East generally. Recently a new departure has been taken in the Review, where Notes, papers on Trade, Commerce, and Economic topics of Travel by well-known writers. It was thought that by extending the scope of the Review in this direction, the Magazine would be more generally used.

The Review department receives special attention, and endeavours are made to present a careful and concise record of Literature on China etc., and to give critiques embodying sketches of the most recent works on such topics. Authors and Publishers are requested to forward works to Editor, China Review, care of China Mail Office.

The Notes and Queries are still continued and form an important means of obtaining from and diffusing among students knowledge on obscure points.

The Correspondents' column also affords further and greater facilities for the interchange of views and discussion of various topics.

Original contributions in Chinese, Latin, or any of the Modern Languages are received. The papers are forwarded to the various Consulates, the Imperial Customs, and Hongkong Services, and also by the Missionary bodies amongst whom a high degree of Chinese scholarship is assiduously cultivated. Amongst the regular contributors are Mrs. Chalmers, Miss Bratcheux, and Hirth; Professor Legge, and Messrs. Balfour, Waiters, Stant, Phillips, MacIntyre, Groot, Jamison, Faber, Koenig, Parker, Playfair, Giles, Piton, and Taylor—all well-known names, indicative of sound scholarship and thorough mastery of their subject.

The Subscription is fixed at \$0.50 per annum, postage included—payable in advance.

Orders for binding volumes will be promptly attended to; Address, "Manager, China Mail Office."

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

All our learned societies should subscribe to this scholarly and enterprising Review.—Northern Christian Advocate (U.S.)

The China Review * * * has an excellent table of contents.—Cælestis Empire.

The Publication always contains subjects of interest to students in the Far East and the present issue will hold favourable if not altogether comparison with preceding numbers.—Cælestis Empire.

This number contains several articles of interest and value.—North-China Herald.

The China Review for September, October fully maintains the high standard of excellence which characterizes that publication, and altogether forms a very interesting and readable number. Meteorologist will find an interesting and valuable contribution by Dr. Fritsch, on "The Amount of Precipitation (Rain and Snow) of Peking" showing the results of observations made at the Imperial Russian Observatory at Peking, from 1841 to 1860. "Notes on the Dutch Occupation of Formosa" by Mr. Goo Phillips, contains some interesting information, although much of it is second-hand. The Notices of New Books include a most general and appreciative review of "The Divine Classic of Nan-Hua," and the Notes and Queries are as usual very interesting.—North-China Daily News.

A substantial and reliable Review which all students of China and the Chinese would do well to notice.—Cælestis Empire.

The Northern Doctor's article on the China Review contains less variety than usual, but the few articles are very interesting. The opening paper by Mr. Herbert A. Ginn on "The New Testament in Chinese" treats of a question that must necessarily be of great importance in the eyes of all missionaries.

Mr. E. H. Parker's "Short Journeys in Southern China" are continued, and a goodly instalment of these travels in the interior of China is given. Mr. F. H. Balfour contributes a paper of some length entitled "The Emperor Chung, founder of the Chinese Empire," which will be read with genuine interest by students of Chinese history.

A few short notices of New Books and a number of Notes and Queries, one of which "On Chinese Cities in Western Borneo and Java" might appropriately have been placed under a separate heading, complete the number.—H. K. Daly, Esq.

"Tristan's Oriental Record" contains the following notice of the China Review:—The present publication, judging by the manner in which it treats us, is intended to occupy a position which regards China and the neighbouring countries, as similar to that which has been held in India by the Cælestis Review. The great degree of attention that has been bestowed of late years upon the investigation of Chinese literature, antiquities, and social developments, to nothing of linguistic studies, has led to the accumulation of important stores of information, rendering some such channel of publicity as is now provided extremely desirable; and contributions of much interest may fairly be looked for from the members of the foreign consular services, the Chinese Customs' corps, and the missionary body, among whom a high degree of Chinese scholarship is now assiduously cultivated, and who are severally represented in the first number of the Review by papers highly creditable to their respective authors.

Some translations from Chinese novels and plays are marked by both accuracy and freshness of style; and an account of the career of the Chinese author of the eleventh century, Su Tung-p'ü, by Mr. C. R. Rivers, is not only historically valuable, but is also distinguished by its literary merit.

Besides notices of new books relating to China and the East, which will be a useful service of the Review, if carried out with punctuality and detail, we are glad to notice that "Notes" and "Queries" are destined to find a place in its pages also. It is to be hoped that this opening for contributions on Chinese subjects may evoke a similar degree of literary seal to that which was displayed during the lifetime of its predecessor in the field, and that the China Review may receive the support necessary to insure its continuance.

Our Jobbing Department

HAVING just been REPLENISHED with a large assortment of the latest European and American NOVELTIES, we are prepared to execute orders for FANCY WORK with dexterity and despatch, and at very moderate rates.

CHINA MAIL OFFICE,

Mails.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.
PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANCAIS.
STREAM FOR
SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA,
COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ,
PORT SAID,
MEDITERRANEAN AND
BLACK SEA PORTS, ALEXANDRIA,
MARSEILLE, AND PORTS
OF BRAZIL, AND LA PLATA;

ALSO
LONDON, HAVRE AND BORDEAUX.

ON WEDNESDAY, the 13th November, 1889, at Noon, the Company's S.S. OXUS, Commanded by DELACOUR, with
MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE, and
CARGO, will leave this Port for the above places.

Cargo and Specie will be registered for London as well as for Marseilles, and accepted in transit through Marseilles for the principal places of Europe.

Shipping Orders will be granted till Noon.

Cargo will be received on board until 4 p.m., Specie and Parcels until 3 p.m. on the 12th November, 1889. (Parcels are not to be sent on board; they must be sent at the Agency's Office.)

Contents and value of Packages are required.

For further particulars, apply at the Company's Office.

G. de CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.

Hongkong, October 31, 1889. 2033

U. S. MAIL LINE.
PACIFIC MAIL STREAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA
VERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING
AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship CHINA
will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on THURSDAY, the 14th November, at 1 p.m., taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and Island Cities of the United States, via Overland Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to English, French, and Germany by all First-class Lines of Steamers.

First-class Fares granted as follows:—
To San Francisco ... \$225.00
To San Francisco (subreturn, 3 months) ... 333.75
To London ... 320.00

To other European ports at proportionate rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service and the Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application.

Passengers by this Line have the option of proceeding overland by the Southern Pacific and connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern Pacific or Canadian Pacific Railways.

Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa) within one year will be allowed a discount of 10%. This allowance does not apply to fares from China and Japan to Europe.

Freight will be received on board until 4 p.m. the day previous to sailing. Parcel Packages will be received at the office until 3 p.m. same day; all Parcel Bills should be marked to address in full; value of items is to be marked.

Consular Passages to accompany Cargo intended to point beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Office in Seal Envelope, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 50, Queen's Road Central.

G. D. HARMAN,
Agent.

Hongkong, October 26, 1889. 2054

STEAM FOR
SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO,
ADEN, ISMALLA, PORT SAID,
MALTA, GIBRALTAR, MARSEILLE,
TRISTE, VENICE, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON;

ALSO,
BOMBAY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA
AND AUSTRALIA.

N. B.—Cargo can be taken on through Bills of Lading for BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF PORTS, MARSEILLE, TRISTE, HAMBURG, NEW YORK AND BOSTON.

SPECIE ONLY LANDED AT PLYMOUTH.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship COROMANDEL, Capt. J. REEVES, with Her Majesty's Mail, will be despatched from that for LONDON via BOMBAY and SUEZ CANAL, on WEDNESDAY, 20th November, at Noon.

Cargo will be received on board until 4 p.m. on the day before sailing.

Goods remaining unclaimed after Saturday, the 16th November, at Noon, will be subject to rent, and landing charges at one cent per package per day.

All Claims must be sent to me on or before To-DAY (Saturday), at 10 a.m., requesting to be delivered prior to shipment.

Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Bills of Lading.

Goods remaining unclaimed after Saturday, the 16th November, at Noon, will be subject to rent, and landing charges at one cent per package per day.

All Claims must be sent to me on or before To-DAY (Saturday), at 10 a.m., requesting to be delivered prior to shipment.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

G. de CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.

Hongkong, November 9, 1889. 2135

NOTICE TO CONSIGNERS.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship Japan having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the HONGKONG and KOWLOON WHARFS and GODOWNS COMPANY's Godowns, at West Point; whence delivery may be obtained.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the 16th Instant will be subject to rent. No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Consignees are hereby informed, that all Claims must be made immediately, as no will be entertained after the 16th instant.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

DAVID SASOON, SONS & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, November 9, 1889. 2137

STEAMSHIP CONGO.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNERS.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship COROMANDEL, Capt. J. REEVES, with Her Majesty's Mail, will be despatched from that for LONDON via BOMBAY and SUEZ CANAL, on WEDNESDAY, 20th November, at Noon.

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No Fire Insurance has been effected.

G. de CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.

Hongkong, November 9, 1889. 2138

NOTICE TO CONSIGNERS.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

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G. de CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.

Hongkong, November 9, 1889. 2139

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No Fire Insurance has been effected.

G. de CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.

Hongkong, November 9, 1889. 2140

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G. de CHAMPEAUX,
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Hongkong, November 9, 1889. 2141

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</

THE CHINA MAIL

MESSRS. GIBB, Lavington & Co., have forwarded us a copy of a circular letter addressed to the shareholders of The Darvel Bay Tobacco Plantations, Limited, (Baron Stein's Concession) which shows that German tobacco has had a very good reception in Holland and has sold at high prices. The 1888 crop raised upon the Darvel Bay Co.'s property at Lahat Island fetched an average price of Tl. 1.43 per 3 kilo, or equal to about 2/4 per lb., which is much above the average price realised for the 1887 crop from any district in Sumatra. The pur-chasers, as is the custom in Amsterdam, offered the tobacco on the market at once and record a very large proportion to retail dealers and manufacturers at most remunerative prices, the best tobacco realising no less than Tl. 30 per half kilo, or about 5/6 per lb.

Mr. Weddhouse held an inquiry at the Magistracy to-day into the circumstances connected with the fire which occurred in a pawnshop at No. 55 Queen's Road West, on the morning of 5th inst. The premises, which were totally destroyed, were insured with the North German Insurance Co. (Messrs. Melchers & Co., agents) for \$8,000, and with the Northern Assurance Co. (Messrs. Turner and Co., agents) for \$20,000. Three of the employees in the pawnshop were examined. The first witness said he was on the ground floor when the fire broke out on the top floor, and he was unable to say how it occurred. The top floor was used as a store for pledged goods, and there was nobody there at the time the fire broke out. Another fok said he had gone to the top floor a few minutes before the fire was discovered, to get a parcel of clothing which the owner had called to redeem. He had a small lantern with him. He was unable to say whether or not the light or a spark from the lantern had come in contact with and set fire to anything. He had come down to the ground floor and was about to ascend the stairs again when he saw smoke coming from the top floor. He only went up a few steps from the ground floor, and then turned, being afraid to go further. A cook, belonging to the establishment, said he was in the Western Market when he heard that the pawnshop was on fire, and as he once ran to the place, went upstairs and lowered several boxes of jewellery, containing more than a thousand dollars' worth, from one of the windows. Acting Inspector Butlin said all the business books were saved and were in the possession of the insurance agents. His Worship adjourned the inquiry in order that the books might be produced.

ASER Petersen, the steward of the four-masted ship *Loring*, met a terrible death in Singapore. While the ship was in the dry dock he fell from the top of the granite steps and rolled down to the bottom, a distance of 25 feet. His right arm was shattered and his skull fractured, and he survived only a few hours.

The free direct immigration of coolies from China does not yet meet the labour demand in Delft, but the flow shows a steady increase to a satisfactory and encouraging extent. There is every prospect of the hindrances in the way being gradually removed so soon as the Chinese labouring class see the advantages of Delft as a field for employment. The return flow of immigrants laden with savings cannot fail to work for good in this direction. From the 6th to the 26th instant, five hundred and eighty-two coolies arrived in Delft from the Celestial Empire in four steamers. The importation of coolies from Penang has fallen to a minimum. Very few now come from Singapore.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—I hear much talk of a wonderful new smokeless powder, called "Cordite" of English origin, which is now being experimented with. It is manufactured in the shape of a cord of gun-powder, and is apparently of the same consistency. It can be stored in water without detriment to its explosive powers, can be ignited by hand, and held in the hand till it is safely and harmlessly consumed, and is much more destructive in its effects when exploded by detonators—the only way of doing it—is ordinary gunpowder. If it really possesses all these estimable qualities it should doubtless bear more of it before long.

INFORMATION has been received during the last few days, says the N.C. Daily News, from several of the pilots to the effect that the depth of water in the channel of the Lower Yangtze, inside the Kiu-tao Lightship, has decreased very considerably, as little as 18 feet having been found with the Lightship bearing S 67° E. and distant from 1½ to 1½ miles, whereas the latest chart shows a depth of 24 feet in this position. Vessels of greater draught than 18 feet should therefore be navigated with extra caution in the locality named, especially when near low water, as it is quite possible that the change which is taking place may affect a considerable section of the river.

The Sydney Morning Herald says:—The last statistics show the estimated number of Chinese residing in Australia to be 57,500. Of the various colonies, New South Wales has the largest number, viz. 16,500. Victoria comes next with 12,500. The Chinese Restriction Act has practically stopped Chinese immigration to this colony, there having been only one arrival since it came into operation. In 1881 the number of Chinese in the colony according to the census was 12,988; in 1871 the number fell to 7,222; in 1861 it rose to 10,205, and this year to 10,300. The Chinese who reside within the metropolitan district are largely engaged in the manufacture of furniture.

There is now being prepared a new expedition in search of the North Pole. It is under the direction of Dr. Nansen, and differs in composition from all that have gone before. A Norwegian crew will set forth in a single small ship now being built for the adventure. Dr. Nansen will at the outset eliminate the word "retreat" from his vocabulary. He will use the ship to carry the party as far north as possible, and when it reaches the furthest point will be abandoned. The hardy Norwegians will then perhaps find that they had more to learn from China than China had to learn from them. The speech of the General, thanks to his good delivery as much as to the interest of the matter, was received with great applause.

THE N.C. Daily News says:—The creation of the Hongkong cricketers left Shanghai for home in the Taku. We have great pleasure in recording that the liberality of the "good old days" was recalled for this event by the owners of the Peiping, and that the team was brought to Shanghai and taken back again free of expense. We hope they take back nearly as good an impression of Shanghai as they left here of themselves.

THE N.C. Daily News says:—We can well understand the irritation that many of the shareholders of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank feel at the recent losses sustained through the acts of their agent at Lyons. No words can magnify his dishonest act, but surely the directorate might take a hint from the lesson received. What is urgently required is an able inspector, who would be constantly over-looking all the current work. Perhaps, as the business is so extensive, two such appointments would not be amiss, and the few thousands a year that would be necessary will easily be paid by the greater bold the directors would have over the business. It would give them a grip they appear to lack at present.

THE escort accompanying the Siamese Boundary Commission will probably include half a British battalion and a mountain battery, the object in view being twofold, namely, to impress the Shan Chiefs and the Siamese Government with the importance of the mission, and secondly, to be prepared for any untoward eventualities which may arise, such as dissension or a sudden emergency, as there is still intercolonial warfare on a small scale going on amongst the petty chiefs in the remote part of the Shan country, where the effect of British influence has not yet fully extended itself.

The witness said he was on the ground floor when the fire broke out on the top floor, and he was unable to say how it occurred. The top floor was used as a store for pledged goods, and there was nobody there at the time the fire broke out. Another fok said he had gone to the top floor a few minutes before the fire was discovered, to get a parcel of clothing which the owner had called to redeem. He had a small lantern with him. He was unable to say whether or not the light or a spark from the lantern had come in contact with and set fire to anything. He had come down to the ground floor and was about to ascend the stairs again when he saw smoke coming from the top floor. He only went up a few steps from the ground floor, and then turned, being afraid to go further. A cook, belonging to the establishment, said he was in the Western Market when he heard that the pawnshop was on fire, and as he once ran to the place, went upstairs and lowered several boxes of jewellery, containing more than a thousand dollars' worth, from one of the windows. Acting Inspector Butlin said all the business books were saved and were in the possession of the insurance agents. His Worship adjourned the inquiry in order that the books might be produced.

THE proposal, which is strongly advocated by M. Piquet, the Governor-General, that European troops in French Indo-China should be diminished, and the cost also, is ably supported by the Temps, the best informed French journal on the subject of Indo-China. The data is now quite pacified, and the only thing is to keep in check the marauding bands which have been driven to the mountains bordering on the Chinese frontier. It has been found that the European troops have had little success in dealing with these refractory individuals in comparison with that attained by the native levies. It is therefore proposed, with every reason, that the Far east contingent should be reduced, and that a strong native levy should be formed for police purposes in the mountainous districts, and the same gradually cleared of the piratical bands. The Europeans should be maintained at certain spots in the delta, where they would be properly garrisoned, and fairly maintain their health. They could not have the active work to perform in a bad climate, but would be there as an efficient check to any larger movement the pirates might contemplate.

Mrs. Mario Finney, a fair-haired girl yet in her teens, and sister of the champion swimmer Finney, made a sensational dive from London Bridge into the River Thames. The flood tide was still making up, and the wind was blowing straight up river when a small group of interested spectators gathered on the Old Swan Pier shortly before three o'clock. The afternoon was bright and fine, and the tideway traffic on the flood was small. Save for a small boat consisting of the steamer sculler; Finney, the champion swimmer; and a sporting journalist well known in the swimming world, there was no indication, even to the initiated, of anything of a sensational character having to take place. About five minutes to three o'clock, when Miss Finney, accompanied by two friends, was observed in one of the places of the bridge, apparently regarding with little interest the river and its streams beneath. Suddenly, when the opportunity offered, she threw off the cloak which concealed her costume de bain, and, lightly leaping on the parapet of the bridge, alighted on the coping-stone and dived, and the wondering spectators had realised what had taken place she had reached the boat awaiting her, none the worse for her forty feet leap into the Thames.

CRICKET.

CLUB T. A. AND S. J. JOHANSEN.

This match was played on the cricket-ground to-day and resulted in an exceedingly easy victory for the Club. The Club bat first, and at fifteen runs had 100 up for a wicket. The Regiment's bowling being of a very harmless nature, the innings closed for 286 for five wickets. In going to bat, the military men's wickets were mercifully mown down, Lowson having no fewer than eight of them for ten runs. The total for the innings, 46, left the warriors hopelessly in the rear. They went in for a second innings, but it was to a near gunfire for our wicket, the Regiments' bowling being of a very harmless nature. The innings closed for 286 for five wickets. In going to bat, the military men's wickets were mercifully mown down, Lowson having no fewer than eight of them for ten runs. The total for the innings, 46, left the warriors hopelessly in the rear. They went in for a second innings, but it was to a near gunfire for our wicket, the Regiments' bowling being of a very harmless nature. 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